

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 3, and ending on page 9, line 12, of the specification, as follows:

According to the method of the invention, a reduced virtual representation is first constructed for the predefined 3D structure. The reduced representation may be obtained by the methodology originally developed by ~~Herzyk~~ Herzyk and Hubbard for use with dynamic simulated annealing [Herzyk P. and Hubbard R.E. Proteins 17:310-324 (1993)]. According to this methodology, the amino acids are represented by virtual spherical atoms, wherein the main chain of the protein, polypeptide or any other suitable polymer is represented by one virtual atom per residue located at the C α position and the side chains are represented by one or more additional virtual atoms. The number of additional virtual atoms depends on the size and chemical composition of the specific side chain.